

Message Text

SECRET

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62

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00

NSC-05 BIB-01 /088 W

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R 251810Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9671

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T BONN 06774

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM, MBFR, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR: EC NINE DISCUSSION

REF: DUBLIN 731

1. WE MET WITH FRG FONOFF MBFR DEPARTMENT HEAD RUTH ON
APRIL 24 TO DISCUSS INTER ALIA THE EC MEETING IN DUBLIN
ON MBFR. RUTH WAS RELUCTANT TO COMMUNICATE MUCH OF
THE SUBSTANCE OF THE DISCUSSION. HE EXPECTS, HOWEVER,
THAT AMEMBASSY LONDON WILL BE GIVEN A COMPREHENSIVE
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BRIEFING.

2. WE PROBED RUTH IN PARTICULAR WITH REGARD TO FRENCH ATTITUDES AND POSITIONS TAKEN AT THE MEETING. RUTH SAID THAT FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE MISTRAL WAS AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN THE DISCUSSIONS, AND THAT FRENCH SKEPTICISM TOWARDS THE NEGOTITIONS REMAINS BASICALLY UNCHANGED. MOREOVER, RUTH PERCEIVES INCREASED FRENCH OPPOSITION TO MBFR BECAUSE OF THE NEW ALLIED APPROACH NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION.

3. COMMENT: THE FACT THAT THE MEETING TOOK PLACE IS PROBABLY MORE IMPORTANT TO THE EC THAN THE ACTUAL SUBSTANCE INVOLVED. THE MEETING COULD STIMULATE EC DIALOGUE ON ARMS CONTROL ISSUES PARTICULARLY RELEVANT TO THE FUTURE GOALS OF EUROPEAN UNITY AND DEFENSE COOPERATION. HOWEVER, THIS FORUM IS A RATHER AWKWARD ONE, WITH BOTH NON-NATO IRELAND AND NON-MBFR PARTICIPANT FRANCE INCLUDED. WE WOULD EXPECT THAT FUTURE DISCUSSIONS ON MBFR WOULD LEAD TO FEW--IF ANY--POSITIVE EC CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WESTERN POSITION ON MBFR IN NATO.
HILLENBRAND

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NNN

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